

Amendment to the Claims

Please amend claims 1-3, 6-42, cancel claims 4-5 without prejudice, and add claims 43-44 as follows:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users including a host of a collaboration event, comprising the steps of:

storing ~~ana user interface representative of said plurality of users~~ in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;

~~creating a composite document from selected source materials;~~

~~selectively annotating said composite document; and~~

~~personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document.~~

selecting a plurality of source documents using the user interface;

selecting a page from each of the selected source documents using the user interface;

adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages using the user interface; and

combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document using the user interface.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of selectively adding the annotation~~annotating comprises ~~a step~~ selectively-highlighting specific regions~~the designated part~~ and adding ~~asynchronous voice annotation or a textual annotation~~annotations to the highlighted part.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 2, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~adding the annotation comprises ~~a step of~~ adding any one of dynamic and static annotations.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of selectively adding the annotation~~annotating comprises ~~a step of selectively~~

adding a video file.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~adding the annotation comprises ~~a step of selectively~~ adding a video clip.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 7, wherein said ~~step of~~ adding a video clip comprises ~~a step of~~ selecting said video clip from a stored video file.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 8, wherein said ~~step of~~ adding a video clip comprises ~~a step of~~ adding hyperlinks to said video clip.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~comprises the adding the annotations is performed using browser based controls.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, ~~further comprising~~including the steps of:

storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users; and

sharing retrieval address information for said collaboration document with said users.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of~~ storing ~~ana user~~ interface comprises sending said interface to ~~one~~any of: ~~(a) a Sharepoint content management system of the type represented by Sharepoint, an~~ Interwoven content management system, ~~and the like, (b) file systems on different servers, and~~ ~~(c) or~~ a local file system.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 11, wherein said ~~step of~~ sharing retrieval address information comprises sending retrieval

address information by e-mail.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 11, ~~further comprising including a step of categorizing and storing~~ said collaboration document.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of personalizing said composite collaboration~~ document ~~comprises~~ is further annotated using e-mail.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 45], wherein said ~~step of personalizing comprises collaboration~~ document is further annotated utilizing rich multimedia messaging ~~by way of e-mail~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users of a collaboration event, comprising the steps of:

storing ~~an~~ a user interface ~~representative of said plurality of users~~ in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;

~~creating a composite document from selected source materials;~~

~~selectively annotating said composite document;~~

~~personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document;~~

selecting a plurality of source documents using the user interface;

selecting a page from each of the selected source documents using the user interface;

adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages using the user interface;

combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document using the interface;

storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users;

establishing an instant messaging conference ~~conferencing~~ amongst said plurality of users;
and

selectively making and locally storing further annotations to said collaboration document by sending further annotations for selected pages of the collaboration document through instant messages during the instant messaging conference;

~~selectively sending at a desired time said further annotations to said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users; and~~

~~wherein the foregoing steps are also selectively performed in an ongoing manner during said instant conferencing.~~

18. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 17, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~adding the annotation is repeatedly performed by any of said users and results thereof are overlaid and stored.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 17, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~adding the annotation includes selectively annotating ~~with anyone~~ of animation, graphics, voice, ~~and/or~~ video.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 17, wherein said ~~step of establishing an instant messaging conference~~conferencing includes establishing voice conferencing.

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 17, wherein said ~~step of establishing instant messaging conference~~conferencing includes establishing video conferencing.

22. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 17, wherein said ~~step of creating a composite document comprises creating said composite~~the collaboration document is created in conformance with needs of said users and applicable confidentiality and security requirements.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users including a host of a collaboration event, comprising the steps of:

storing ~~aaa~~ user interface ~~representative of said plurality of users~~ in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;
 creating a composite document from selected source materials;
 selectively annotating said composite document;
 personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document;
selecting a plurality of source documents using the user interface;
selecting a page from each of the selected source documents using the user interface;
adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages using the user interface;
combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document using the interface;
 storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users;
 sharing retrieval address information for said collaboration document with said users;
 making and locally storing further annotations to said collaboration document; and
 selectively sending at a desired time said further annotations to said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 23, wherein said ~~adding the annotation~~~~step of selectively annotating~~ comprises ~~a step wherein said selectively adds highlighting~~~~highlight specific regions~~ the designated part and ~~adds synchronous adding a voice annotation~~~~annotations~~ or a textual annotation to the highlighted part.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 23, wherein said ~~step of selectively annotating~~ ~~comprises~~adding the annotation is performed using browser based controls.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for multimedia collaboration between a first user and at least a second user, comprising the steps of:

said first user selecting a document page for said collaboration;
 said first user optionally associating user-entered data with said document page;

said first user saving said document page together with said user-entered data associated therewith as a collaboration document in a memory location commonly accessible to said first and said second user;

said first and second users establishing an instant message communication for said collaboration;

said second user retrieving said collaboration document, including said user-entered data associated therewith from the commonly accessible memory location; and

said first and second users optionally modifying said user-entered data ~~in the context of said collaboration~~ using the established instant message communication.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of said first user selecting a document comprises selecting a document from any of a server, a data repository, a shared portal, disk storage, a database, and the Web.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of said first user optionally associating user-entered data with said document page comprises a step of associating any of voice and graphic annotations.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of said first user optionally associating user-entered data with said document page comprises a step of associating audio and graphic annotations and a step of streaming said audio synchronously along with said graphic annotations.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of saving said document page comprises saving said document page in a format requiring only a regular web browser to view said annotated documents.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of saving said document page comprises saving said document page with a URL (Universal Resource Locator) in an Internet information server and wherein said step of establishing instant message communication comprises said first user communicating said URL

to said second user using the instant message communication.

32. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of creating a composite document comprises creating said composite document in conformance with needs of said users and applicable confidentiality and security requirements

33. (Currently Amended) A system for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users including a host of a collaboration event, comprising:

~~means for storing an interface representative of said plurality of users in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;~~

~~means for creating a composite document from selected source materials; means for selectively annotating said composite document; and~~

~~means for personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document.~~

means for selecting a plurality of source documents;

means for selecting a page from each of the selected source documents;

means for adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages; and

means for combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document,

wherein each of the means are accessible to said users in a common memory location.

34. (Currently Amended) A system for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users of a collaboration event, comprising:

~~means for storing an interface representative of said plurality of users in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;~~

~~means for creating a composite document from selected source materials;~~

~~means for selectively annotating said composite document;~~

~~means for personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document;~~

means for selecting a plurality of source documents;

means for selecting a page from each of the selected source documents;

means for adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages; and
means for combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document;
means for storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly
accessible to said users;
means for establishing an instant messaging conference~~confereneing~~ amongst said plurality
of users; and
means for selectively making and locally storing further annotations to said collaboration
document by sending further annotations for selected pages of the collaboration document
through instant messages during the instant messaging conference;
wherein each of the means are accessible to said users in a common memory location;
selectively sending at a desired time said further annotations to said collaboration document
in said memory location commonly accessible to said users; and
wherein the foregoing steps are also selectively performed in an ongoing manner during said
instant confereneing.

35. (Currently Amended) A system for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users including a host of a collaboration event, comprising:

means for storing an interface representative of said plurality of users in a memory location
commonly accessible to said users;

means for creating a composite document from selected source materials; means for
selectively annotating said composite document;

means for personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a
collaboration document;

means for selecting a plurality of source documents;

means for selecting a page from each of the selected source documents;

means for adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages;

means for combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document;

means for storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly
accessible to said users;

means for sending retrieval address information for said collaboration document to said
users;

means for making and locally storing further annotations to said collaboration document;
and
means for selectively sending at a desired time said further annotations to said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users,
wherein each of the means are accessible to said users in a common memory location.

36. (Currently Amended) A method for multimedia collaboration between a plurality of users for a collaboration event, comprising the steps of:

~~storing a user interface representative of said plurality of users in a memory location commonly accessible to said users;~~

~~creating a composite document from selected source materials;~~

~~selectively annotating said composite document;~~

~~personalizing said composite document with browser-based annotations to form a collaboration document;~~

selecting a plurality of source documents using the user interface;

selecting a page from each of the selected source documents using the user interface;

adding an annotation to a designated part of each of the selected pages using the user interface;

combining the annotated pages into a collaboration document using the interface;

storing said collaboration document in said memory location commonly accessible to said users;

sharing retrieval address information for said collaboration document with said users; and

selecting a collaboration mode for said collaboration event respecting said collaboration document, wherein said collaboration mode comprises any of said offline, near real time, real time, and disconnected modes.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 36, including ~~a step of~~ generating and storing a log of said collaboration.

38. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 36, wherein said ~~step of~~ selecting a collaboration mode comprises selecting a single one of said

offline, near real time, real time, and disconnected modes.

39. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 36, wherein said ~~step of~~ selecting a collaboration mode comprises selecting a plurality of said offline, near real time, real time, and disconnected modes.

40. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 39, including a ~~step of~~ generating and storing a log of said collaboration.

41. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 36, wherein said ~~step of~~ selecting a collaboration mode comprises selecting a plurality of said offline, near real time, real time, and disconnected modes and causing a selective seamless transition from one selected mode to another.

42. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 41, including a ~~step of~~ generating and storing a log of said collaboration.

43. (New) The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of source documents include at least two source documents of different data formats.

44. (New) The method for multimedia collaboration as recited in claim 1, further comprising sending a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) linked to the collaboration document to at least one of the plurality of users using the user interface, wherein selection of the received URL by the user, enables the user to access the collaboration document using a local web browser.